THE
Theatrical Observer:
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—OTHELLO.

No. 2366. Monday, July 13, 1829. Price 1d.

"The Play's the thing!"—Ask for Thomas's Observer.

Haymarket Theatre.

On Saturday night, *The Barber of Seville* was performed at this Theatre, when Miss Melton re-appeared, after her temporary absence, in the character of *Rosina*. She sang sweetly and pleasingly, and accompanied herself on the piano-forte, in the singing-lesson, with a good deal of taste; her acting, however, was superior to her singing, and displayed a considerable portion of archness and naïveté. We do not think it was well judged to choose this part for her début, as she has neither sufficient power of voice, or musical knowledge, to give due effect to the music of this Opera; this was particularly observable in her execution of the beautiful air, 'Una voce poco fa,' which is quite beyond her powers; at least, till they have been more highly cultivated. We admire this young lady so much, that we regret to see her in a part in which it is impossible for us, with justice, to speak of her as we could wish.

Mr. J. Reeve, who played *Figaro*, on his entrance was almost inaudible; he addressed the audience, and claimed their indulgence, as a hoarseness had come on him within the last four hours which rendered it painful to him to go on with the part; but which he preferred doing, rather than cause a change of the performance. He was much applauded, and as he proceeded with the performance he partially recovered his voice. Mr. Williams played *Doctor Bartolo* extremely well, but Mr Williamson was very ineffective as *Fiorello*; indeed, we cannot compliment the manager on the manner in which this Opera was got up, nothing could be well worse. The admirable acting displayed in the two pieces which followed, viz, *Manœuvring*, and *The Green Eyed Monster*, amply compensated for any deficiency of merit in the Opera, and sent the audience home in high good humor.

English Opera House.

The highly popular melo-drama of *The Sister of Charity*, Peake's new farce of *Master's Rival*, and the amusing little piece of *Gretna Green*, formed a very attractive bill of fare at this Theatre on Saturday evening. The whole of the performance was warmly and deservedly applauded, by a fashionable audience.

The forthcoming new Grand Opera, at this Theatre, to be called *The Robber's Bride*, is composed by Ferdinand Ries, the celebrated piano forte player. Ries commenced his musical education at a very early age, under his father, (who was the director of the orchestra of the Elector of Cologne,) and he afterwards received tuition from Bernard Romberg. After several years of severe study, the celebrated Beethoven became his master and friend. Ries remained in Vienna,

till 1805, when he went to Paris, where for two years he met with no success, either as composer, or performer, which does not argue much for the musical taste of the French. He left Paris for Russia, and at St. Petersburgh met his old master, Romberg; and afterwards made a professional tour to Stockholm, when his reception was most flattering, and he was made a member of the Royal Academy of Music there. He arrived in this country in 1813, and was introduced, by the late Mr. Salomon, to the Philharmonic Society. *The Robber's Bride* is now the grand source of attraction in every Theatre in Germany, and it occupied Ries four years in the composition.

We have seen a letter from Mr. Kean, dated on Friday last, in which he states, that he is rapidly recovering from his late illness; we trust he will soon be so far recovered as to be able to visit the north of Ireland.—*Northern Whig.*

Mr. Wright, of champaign notoriety, is to be the Box-office Keeper of Drury Lane Theatre, in the place of Mr. Spring, who retires. We understand, the appointment was purchased of Mr. Price for £300 per annum. The profits of the situation arising from the shillings paid for places taken in the boxes, we are told, netts, some seasons, as much as £700.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

Dear Mr. Editor—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention, that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends, and the fashionable world, at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town.

On Monday, must take another peep at the two new views, at the Diorama, Regent's Park—was puzzled to decide which was the most beautiful, St. Peter's or the Village of Thiers—both exquisitely painted—the pictorial illusion complete—the water flowing, smoke ascending, sun shining—quite nature itself.—Had difficulty to persuade a fair lady next me, that we were really viewing merely pictures. Shall put off my journey to Italy, as I'm told, *sub rosa*, we shall have other views from that classic soil; and its good as St. Peter's will satisfy me.

On Wednesday, I step into the Horse Bazaar, Baker Street—inspect the magnificent Exhibition of Musical and Mechanical Automa—Musical Lady, Juvenile Artist, Rope Dancer, Magician, Walking Figure, a magnificent Vase, made by order of Napoleon, Birds, &c. In the afternoon, I qualify Mrs. P.'s discordant notes with some harmony divine, and may be found between 1 and 4 o'clock, at *The Apollonicon*; in St. Martin's Lane.

On Friday, I drop in to examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle-Work, in Leicester Square.

I daily drop in at my old friend, Alexander Lee's, in the Quadrant, to hear his pupils perform the sweet music in *The Invincibles*, and *The Sublime and Beautiful*—'The Fairest Flower,' and 'Hunter's Signal Horn' quite bewilder me.

I address you from the Cigar Divan, King-street, Covent Garden, having just popt in to take a cup of Coffee, whiff a true Havannah, kill an hour over one or two of the eight Morning and Evening Papers—skim the Magazines, and play a game of Chess---delightful place—but I intrude—beg pardon.

Your's, PAUL PRY.

N. B. Called at *The Theatrical Observer* Office—found the following numbers out of print:—196 or 197, 249, 355, 748, 791, 1252, and 1296—offered *one shilling* each for any of them, which will be given on applying at No. 4, Ryder's Court, Leicester Square.

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All Communications must be post paid.—Printing in General.

Theatre Royal, Hay-Market.

This Evening, the Opera of

The Haunted Tower.

Lord William, Mr WESTERN;
Baron of Oakland.....Mr W. FARREN,
De Courcy, Mr BRINDAL,
Edward, Mr WEBSTER, Hugo, Mr WILLIAMS,
Charles, Mr J. F. WILLIAMSON,
Lewis, Mr BISHOP, Martin, Mr M. BARNETT,
Hubert, Mr COOKE, Robert, Mr GALLOT.
Lady Elinor, Mrs H. CORRI,
Cicely, Miss M. GLOVER, Maud, Mrs TAYLEURE,
Adela, (first time) Miss MELTON.

After which, (9th time) a Comic Piece, in one act, called

MANŒUVRING.

Count de Villa Mayor, (Ambassor from Spain to Naples) MrCOOPER
Frederick de Carnay, Mr BRINDAL,
Finesse, (Groom of the Chambers to the Court) Mr VINING.
Costanza, Mrs ASHTON,
Zanette..... .... Mrs HUMBY

After which, the Comic Piece in One Act, called

LODGINGS
For Single Gentlemen.

Captain Postlethwaite, Mr VINING,
Colonel Stanmore, Mr BRINDAL, Trusty, Mr WEBSTER,
Mrs Greville, Miss F. H. KELLY,
Maria, Mrs ASHTON, Mrs Prattle, Mrs GLOVER.

To-morrow, The Two Friends, Manœuvring, &c.

Theatre Royal, English Opera.

This Evening, (9th time) a new Romantic Drama, called

The Sister of Charity

With the Overture to Anacreon.

The Music composed and selected by Mr HAWES.

Colonel Saxe, } in the Austrian Army { Mr BAKER,
Captain Weimar, } { Mr J. VINING,

Paulo, (a Peasant) Mr KEELEY,

Andrea, } Smugglers { Mr O. SMITH,
Joseph, } { Mr PERKINS,
Jacomo, } { Mr RANSFORD,

Worgman, (Sentinel) Mr SALTER, Lieutenant, Mr IRWIN,
Orderly, Mr HEATH, Soldier, Mr J. COOPER, Villager, Mr MINTON
Soldiers, Smugglers, Villagers, &c.

St. Ursula, (the Sister of Charity) Miss KELLY,
Nannetta, Miss H. CAWSE.

After which, Dibdin's Musical Entertainment of

The Waterman.

The Overture, (consisting of Extracts from Dibdin's Songs) arranged by Mr PARRY.

Tom Tug, Mr WOOD, who will sing, in addition to the original Music,
'The Bay of Biscay O!'
Robin, Mr KEELEY, with the Ballad of *'Cherries and Plums.'*
Bundle, Mr W. BENNETT.
Mrs Bundle, Mrs C. JONES, Wilhelmina, Miss CAWSE.

To conclude with the Romance of

The Bottle Imp!

Music composed by Mr G. H. Rodwell.

Albert.....(a German Traveller).....Mr WOOD,
Willibald, (his Servant) Mr KEELEY,
Waldeck, (a Farmer) Mr F. MATTHEWS, (his 3rd appearance)
Conrade, (his Son, an Officer of Musqueteers) Mr BAKER,
Nicola, (a Spaniard) Mr J. VINING,
Shadrac, Mr MINTON, Jomelli, (a Musqueteer) Mr SALTER,
Montorio, Mr J. COOPER, Chamberlain, Mr HEATH,
Serjeant, Mr EAST, Soldier, Mr FULLER, Inquisitor, Mr IRWIN.
The Bottle Imp, Mr O. SMITH.
Marcelia, (Daughter of Waldeck) Miss CAWSE,
Lucretia, Miss PINCOTT, Philippa, her Attendant, Miss H. CAWSE

To-morrow, The Sister of Charity, The Middle Temple, &c.